[Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur]

declaring the said machines as parts of components, thereby evading proper customs duty payable; and

(c) if so, what action is being taken to check the financial loss to the country by way of short payment of custom duty on the said machine ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Soft drink and ice-cream automatic vending and dispensing machines incorporating refrigerating devices are classifiable under heading No. 8476.11 of the Customs Tariff. Such machines not incorporating refrigerating devices are, however, classifiable under heading No. 8476.19 ibid.

(b) and (c) Infromation is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal to go for Road Bond by Andhra Pradesh

2250. DR. YELAMANCHILI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking permission to go for Road Bonds;

(b) is so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon alongwith the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Government of Andhra Pradesh had sought permission to go for Road Bonds on the same terms and conditions applicable to Central Govt. Public Sector Bonds which are already in the market.

(c) The present scheme of public sector bonds is restricted to only these undertakings which are wholly or partly owned by Central Government State level undertakings are to be governed by SEBI guidelines on debentures. Borrowings by the State Government are governed by the Standard requirements of financing annual plans as approved by planning commission.

Bank credit available to Agriculture Sector

2251. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the total bank credits available to the Agriculture Sector has gone down from 18.8 per cent in the previous year to 8.9 per cent this year; and

(b) if not, what is the percentage of credit available to the Agriculture Sector from banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The amount of outstanding advances by all scheduled commercial banks to Agriculture Sector as at the end of March 1991 was Rs. 16750 crores and the same rose to Rs. 18187 crores as at the end of March 1992. In terms of percentage, the credit to this Sector formed 15.3% and 15.4% of the total credit extended by all scheduled commercial banks in the corresponding periods.

Revision of Rupee-Rouble Exchange rate

2252. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA :
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with the Government of Russia regarding revision of rupee-rouble exchange rate; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.